

**Amendments to the Specification:**

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 18 with the following:**

In the embodiment shown in FIGS. 1A and 1B, apparatus **10** includes a first element defining or forming anode compartment **14** and a second element defining or forming cathode compartment **15**, each of which can be individually inserted and axially spaced apart within housing means **1** along a longitudinal axis A-A. Anode and cathode compartments **14**, **15** are each preferably configured to hold at least one electrolyte. In addition, either anode or cathode compartments **14**, **15** of apparatus **10** can be further configured to hold at least a portion of the sample to be altered. Each of anode and cathode compartments **14**, **15** have means for adding or removing a solution to or from its respective compartment. As shown, anode and cathode compartments **14**, **15** can be preferably configured so as to have an opening from the top thereby making anode and cathode compartment **14**, **15** accessible for top loading or removal of a solution. Alternatively, anode and cathode compartments can be configured with other structures or alternatively located openings to provide access for adding or removing a solution from the compartments. Preferably respectively disposed within anode and cathode compartments **14**, **15** are electrodes (not shown) acting as anode **[[30]]** (not shown) and cathode **[[35]]** (not shown). Anode and cathode **[[30, 35]]** are axially spaced apart substantially along longitudinal axis A-A by a distance **d** and can be further configured so as to provide an electric field having a direction **E** substantially parallel to longitudinal axis A-A. The electric field is applied for the purpose of performing the electrophoresis. Anode **[[30]]** and cathode **[[35]]** can be connected to a power source (not shown), more preferably, anode **[[30]]** and cathode **[[35]]** can be connected to a variable voltage source having a preferred voltage ranging from about 10 V to about 5000 V, with a current preferably ranging from about 0.01 mA to about 1000 mA. It is to be understood that either compartment **14** or **15** can act as the anode compartment and cathode compartment by connecting the appropriate outlet of the power source to the electrode in the respective compartment functioning as anode **[[30]]** and cathode **[[35]]**.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 4, with the following:**

In order to facilitate the sealing action of sealing means **12**, housing means **1** can include axially opposed compression members **8**, **9**, preferably formed from an electrically insulating, non-brittle, sufficiently rigid material, such as PVC material, that can be axially displaced along longitudinal axis A-A to compress anode and cathode compartments **14**, **15**, sealing means **12**, ion-permeable barriers **18**, and where present, separation compartments **40**. In addition, axial displacement of opposed compression members **8**, **9** facilitates removal and/or replacement of the individual anode, cathode and separation compartments **14**, **15**, **40**, sealing means **12** and ion-

permeable barriers 18 from housing means 1. Compression members 8, 9 can directly act on axially opposed end plates 16, 11 which are each preferably engaged with sealing means 12 to transmit the compressive force to the assembled anode and cathode compartments 14, 15, separation compartments 40, sealing means 12 and ion-permeable barriers 18. Compression members 8, 9 can include a threaded rod 6 and nut assembly 5 so as to axially displace compression members 8, 9 along longitudinal axis A-A, however it is to be understood that other means of linear displacement may be provided.